

**SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE CALL  
NRC, BLM, WDEQ-LQD & EPA  
WED, JAN 21, 2015**

**NRC Projects**

Ross

- Expect ruling by end of Jan on hearing
- Public meeting with licensee on Feb 3 re: construction schedule
- Licensee proposing a smaller facility, and will toll mill with another facility

Dewey-Burdock

- New contentions were proposed by the interveners, but were deemed to be an extension of exiting contentions by the board
- Final ruling expected Mar 9
- Awaiting additional information from licensee on PA treatment plan development to restart consultation effort on the PA

Reno Creek

- Responses to additional RAIs received from applicant
- Proposing deep well injection for liquid waste
- NRC addressing other alternatives for disposal in DSEIS
- Public meeting to be held in spring 2015
- Draft SEIS – June 2015 (target)
- Final SER – end of calendar year

Smith Ranch-Highland

- Received responses to RAIs on Environmental Report (ER)
- Responses to Technical Report (TR) expected in Feb
- DEQ terminated the Temporary Filing Number

Ludeman

- Facility design has changed from three satellites to one
- RAI acceptance review completed and many RAI responses found to be inadequate
- Second round of targeted RAIs developed for safety/ environmental and change of design concerns submitted to licensee in Dec, responses due in Feb

Jane Dough

- Deficiencies in TR (geology and hydrology)
- Supplemental information requested in Nov
- Public meeting held on Dec 9, 2014
- Section 106 letters sent to tribes on Dec 15
- So far, application has not been accepted
- Public meeting – Feb 4, 2015 (DEQ staff requested information on the public meeting)

Lost Creek

- Amendment application for KM horizon and Lost Creek East has not been accepted
- Submittal by applicant had several deficiencies
- Additional information expected by end of Jan
- NRC will conduct an inspection at existing (operating) facility at end of Jan

Sweetwater Mill

- Application for license amendment was accepted
- Technical review has begun
- Opportunity for hearing will be noticed, shortly, in the Federal Register

## **Foreseeable Projects (NRC)**

### Shirley Basin

Anticipate license application – summer 2015  
Old mine area currently being reclaimed (BLM & DEQ)

### Kendrick

Expansion of Ross site (additional 10K acres)  
Expecting license application end of Feb

### Brown Ranch

Expansion of North Butte facility (a satellite)  
Expect license application Jul 2015

## **BLM Projects**

### Gas Hills

Continuing to work on Section 106 process  
Applicant has no plans to move forward on project

### Buss Pit:

BLM has prepared an EA  
Cameco performing studies of pit

### Nichols/Hank

Continuing to work on the PA for the Pumpkin Buttes TCP(s)  
Received comments from WY SHPO and ACHP  
Hank unit has not received approval from the BLM (decision in Jun)

### Lost Creek

Preparing FRN for scoping meeting for Lost Creek East and KM license amendment  
Contractor for NEPA document not yet selected  
DEQ requires additional pump testing  
Applicant submitting notice for 17 additional monitoring wells (<5 ac disturbance)

### Sheep Mountain

Draft EIS published on Jan 16, 2015 (NRC to receive a CD)  
There will be a 45-day public comment period  
NRC has not received a license application  
No word on whether applicant would use Sweetwater Mill

## **Foreseeable Projects (BLM)**

### Reno Creek and Jane Dough; Buffalo Field Office

Awaiting surface owner consent on split estate lands  
If consent is given, no 3809 Plans of Operation are required

## **WDEQ**

### **LQD HQ**

Agreement State Legislation – expected in early Mar 2015 (Bill has been proposed)

### **LQD Dist. 1**

Ludeman - application review was terminated on Dec 26, 2014 due to no action for 5 years.

### **LQD Dist. 2**

Sheep Mountain (Energy Fuels, Inc. [EFI]) continues to refine application  
EFI is proposing additional monitoring wells  
Permit coordination has begun for Lost Creek East and KM Horizon license amendment

### **LQD Dist. 3**

Uranium One – Willow Creek – Permit 478: This mine remains in operation with no major projects on-going at this time. Irigaray Expansion – This amendment application remains on hold until market conditions improve.

Cotter Corporation – Charlie Project - Permit 489: No activity at this time

Cameco Resources – Ruth Project – Permit 631: No activity at this time

Cameco Resources – North Butte – Permit 632: This mine is operational with no major permitting actions at this time.

Brown Ranch Amendment – The submittal of this application has been delayed due to current market condition.

Cameco Resources – Ruby Ranch Project – This new permit application is scheduled to be submitted later in 2014.

Smith-Highland Ranch – Permit 633: LQD D3 is now coordinating this permit. There are no major permitting actions at this time.

Uranerz – Hank-Nichols – Permit 778: Initiated production in February 2014.

Jane Dough Amendment – This amendment application was submitted on August 1, 2014. LQD D3 deemed this application complete on October 15, 2014. LQD D3 is performing the first round technical review.

Uranium One – Moore Ranch – Permit 777: No activity at this time.

Strata Energy – Ross Project – Permit 802: NRC license was issued in April 2014. Strata Energy has informed LQD D3 that due to improved market conditions for their company, they plan to move forward with construction of facilities and well fields to initiate production.

Kendrick Amendment – Baseline sampling activities continue to move forward. No date for submittal has been provided

AUC, LLC – Reno Creek – LQD has no outstanding review comments and is working with the WDEQ Water Quality Division to complete the Statement of Basis to defend their proposed aquifer exemption boundary. Once the Statement of Basis is completed, the LQD will deem the application technically adequate and instruct AUC, LLC on the public notice and public comment process. The WDEQ WQD review of the Statement of Basis is due on or before February 14, 2015.

### **EPA Region 8**

Proposed 40 CFR Part 192 rules are still in draft form. The draft rule has not been published in the FR, but is available for review, however, it is not official until published in the FR. EPA will forward copy of new rule to NRC staff.

### **Conferences and Meetings**

NMA Annual Workshop scheduled for Jun 8-9, 2015 in Denver

### **As Time Permits...**

WDEQ-LQD question regarding NRC spill/release criteria (thresholds):

10 CFR 40.60 and 10 CFR 20.2202 are the regulations that contain the criteria for when NRC is required to be notified. The regulations in 10 CFR 20.2202 relate to “any event involving source, byproduct, or special nuclear material possessed by the licensee” and are largely focused on radiological dose. The regulation outlines the different criteria (an individual receiving a total effective dose of 25 rem or more, a lens dose

equivalent of 75 rem or more, shallow dose equivalent to the skin or extremities of 250 rad, etc. – there are several more criteria). 10 CFR 40.60 is a little bit broader as it contains criteria beyond just radiological dose. Events meeting either criterion are required to be reported to the NRC operations center. These criteria are based on radiological dose, not a specific quantity or volume of material. Generally, spills of production or injection fluid don't get close to this threshold. But we do expect licensees to have procedures in place to evaluate spills against these criteria and we do look at spill records during inspections.

NRC guidance in NUREG 1569 also talks a bit about reporting of spills. NUREG 1569, Section 5.1 states, "The staff should review the detailed description of the applicant's proposed organization and administrative procedures, including a description and/or chart depicting the key positions in the management structure, and the responsibilities and functions of each with respect to development, review, approval, implementation, and adherence to operating procedures, radiation safety programs, environmental and ground-water monitoring programs, quality assurance programs, routine and non-routine maintenance activities, and changes to any of these. These include procedures that evaluate the consequences of a spill or incident/event against 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart M and 10 CFR 40.60 criteria."

Below is an example of the conditions that NRC staff typically includes in ISR licenses related to reporting of spills (this is from the Uranerz Nichols Ranch license):

"The licensee shall have written procedures for evaluating consequences of the spill or incident/event against 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart M, and 10 CFR 40.60 reporting criteria. If the criteria are met, then the licensee shall report to the NRC Operations Center as required.

"If the licensee is required to report any production area excursions and spills of source material, byproduct material, or process chemicals that may have an impact on the environment, or any other incidents/events, to any State or other Federal agency, a report shall be made to the NRC Headquarters Project Manager by telephone or electronic mail (e-mail) within 24 hours. This notification shall be followed, within 30 days of the notification, by submittal of a written report to NRC Headquarters, as per LC 9.3, detailing the conditions leading to the spill or incident/event, corrective actions taken, and results achieved.

### **Next Quarterly Call**

Tentative – Wed, Apr 15, 2015 0800 MDT (1000 EDT)